



NO. 29.

BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

Feb. 16 to 28, 1910.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

ACTINIDIA SP. 26904. From Tientai, via Ningpo, China. Presented by Rev. A. O. Loosely. Deng-li or vine pear, so-called because slightly resembling in appearance a Chinese pear. Grows among the hills. The fruit is full of small seeds and slightly resembles a fig in taste; it is good to eat raw, stewed or made into jam." (Loosely) For distribution later. See photo.

ALEURITES FORDII. 26799. From Audobon Park, New Orleans, La. Grown from S.P.I. No. 13104. See S.P.I. No. 25081 for description.

AMYGDALUS PERSICA. 26821-835. Trees grown at Plant Introduction Garden, Chico, Cal. Budded on Amygdalus davidiana, S.P.I. No. 22009, to test it for its commercial value and congeniality as a stock for these fruits. These are being planted in sets of ten at Arlington, Chico and San Antonio. 26821-827, peach; 26828-831, prune; 26832, apricot; 26833, plum; 26834-835, almond. 26835 was budded on S.P.I. No. 21227.

ANONA CHERIMOLIA. 26731-739. ANONA SQUAMOSA. 26740-746, 26754. ANONA RETICULATA. 26747-748. ANONA SENEGALENSIS. 26749. ANONA SP. (?) 26750-751. ANONA SP. 26752-753. Cherimoyer plants grown at the Subtropical Garden, Miami, Fla. For immediate distribution.

ANONA PALUSTRIS. 26855. From Mayaguez, Porto Rico. Presented by Mr. W. E. Hess. "A small tree indigenous to tropical America, 24 to 30 feet high, 10-12 inches in diameter; inhabiting swampy and marshy localities. The fruit is said to be inedible. (Wester.)

ASPARAGUS SP. 26883. From near Kirikinesh, Crimea, Russia. A climbing asparagus found once in awhile in an open thicket; seems to be ornamental. (Meyer's introduction.)

AVENA SATIVA. 26899. Algerian oat. From Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa. Presented by Mr. I. B. P. Evans. "Oats suffer very considerably with us from rust, and this variety is practically the only one that shows immunity to the pest." (Evans.) For distribution later.

BERBERIS SP. 26686. From hills near Sebastopol, Crimea. A barberry growing in rocky cliffs, in gullies and on stony mountain sides. Has very large spines, but is ornamental. Good ornamental garden shrub in mild-wintered regions. (Meyer's Introduction.)

BRASSICA PEKINENSIS. 26783. Presented by Mr. Maurice de Vilmorin, Paris, thru Mr. Walter T. Swingle. Seeds of Chinese Pe tsai which I got from Abbe Martin, Gau pin koey who says: "I tried your improved Pe tsai but prefer the strain of this province. Instead of extending many leaves this one makes a very white and tender head. It should be sown at the same time as lettuce etc., but much closer. It is peculiarly good after the first hoarfrosts." (Vilmorin.) For distribution later.

BROMELIA. 26896. From Panama. Presented by Mr. Henry F. Schultz. "A small plant which may have some value as a fiber producer. It is armed with sharp, recurved spines and the leaves stand up straight 11-14 feet high. The mother plant grows on the property of the Boston Panama Co. on rubber land - semi-wild trees." (Schultz.) For distribution later.

CARPINUS BELUTUS. 26878. From near Sebastopol, Crimea. "This well known shrub, growing into medium-sized trees occasionally, is found in abundance on the hills and mountains of Crimea where it withstands heat and drought remarkably well on very sterile mountain sides." (Meyer's Introduction)

CERCIS SILIQUASTRUM. 26684. From near Kirikinesh, Crimea. "The so-called Judas tree; a red-bud of the Southern European and North African regions. Highly ornamental; when planted in good locality grows 26-30 feet high." (Meyer's Introduction.)

CHLORIS GAYANA. 26851. Rhodes grass from Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Purchased from Messrs. Anderson & Son. For immediate distribution.

CICER ARIETINUM. 26898. Mexican chickpea purchased from Messrs. Labato and Lombroso, of New York. For immediate distribution.

CORONILLA VARIA. 26679, 26817. From near Kirikinesh, Crimea. "A perennial leguminous plant, making somewhat woody stems, on which the foliage persists in winter when located in sheltered nooks. Grows on dry cliffs. between boulders and rocks. May be of value as a fodder plant in mild wintered regions." (Meyer's Introduction.)

COTONEASTER PYRACANTHA. 26874. From near Baidari, Crimea. "This very ornamental evergreen hawthorn grows in its native habitat on rather sterile and exposed places. Can be used as a low, evergreen hedge plant." (Meyer's Introduction.)

CRATAEGUS SP. 26871. From near Sebastopol, Crimea. "A tall shrub, sometimes a tree, found in rather stony and sterile places. Of value as an ornamental plant and stock for pears. 26872. A shrubby hawthorn with a few black, juicy berries, growing in a thicket. To be used for the same purposes as the preceding number. 26873. From near Kirikinesh, Crimea. A tall, shrubby hawthorn, growing in fields. To be used like preceding number. 26875. From near Sebastopol. A small tree found at the foot of an embankment; apparantly quite rare. Of value as an ornamental tall shrub or small tree in regions with dry, hot summers and fairly mild winters. 26876. From near Baidari, Crimea. A low shrub, found growing in dry, stony places. (Meyer's Introductions.)

DIOSPYROS SP. 26897. From Hartley and Melsetter districts, Rhodesia, South Africa. "This tree is said to be of considerable size and the timber to be useful for building purposes. The fruit is described as resembling that of Mahobohobo (*Uapaca kirkiana* Mill) though somewhat smaller and with a thinner skin. Three to five seeds in each fruit. I think this is possibly *D. Kirkii*." (Mundy.) For distribution later.

DIOSPYROS. 26902-903. From Tientai, via Ningpo, China. Presented by Rev. A. O. Loosely. The fruit of one is the size and shape of a large egg, the other is larger, round and flat. They are a delicious fruit for eating raw or dried. They have a long season of about two months, are prolific and a sure crop." (Loosely.) For distribution later.

FESTUCA RUBRA. 26820. Red fescue grown on campus of Agricultural College, College Park, Maryland, in dense shade. It would not produce seed there, so was sent to Pullman, Washington, where it seeded freely." (Evans.) For distribution later.

FICUS CARICA. 26679. From near Sebastopol, Crimea. "A form of wild fig growing on exposed rocks. It freezes back, however, in severe winters. To be experimented with in the northern limits of fig growing sections." (Meyer's Introduction.)

GARCINIA SPP. 26853-854. Two species of Garcinia from Buitenzorg, Java. Presented by Mr. H. Wigman of the Department of Agriculture. For distribution later.

GLYCINE HISPIDA. 26839-840. Two varieties of soybean, large black seeded and small black seeded, from Kalgarh, Midnapore, India. Presented by Mr. A. L. Keenan.

HEDYSARUM SP. 26669. From near Kirikinesh, Crimea. Found growing in the same localities as 26668 (Ononis?), and the same remarks apply to it. (Meyer's Introduction.)

HERACLEUM SP. 26881. From near Kirikinesh, Crimea. "A Heracleum with very large umbells, found on a stony mountain side. Of value as an ornamental plant in parks and large gardens." (Meyer's Introduction.)

JUNIPERUS EXCELSA. 26688. From mountains near Souchaja Retsha, Crimea, Russia. "A very beautiful juniper with bluish-green foliage, bearing large berries of dark velvet color and covered with a white bloom. A tall bush but sometimes growing into a tree 20 feet in height. A fine ornamental evergreen for mild-wintered, hot-summered localities. This juniper seems to occur only in the Crimea and Caucasus." (Meyer's Introduction.)

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

JAVA, Buitenzorg. A. J. Perkins, Jan. 28. Sends seeds of sapodillas. Says that the seeds of *Canarium commune* which he sent are used by the Chinese to make an edible oil. From the kernel of the nut a baby food is made which has been used with remarkable success in Java as a substitute for mother's milk. Sends seed of *Arenga saccharifera*, whose young leaves are much used as wrappers for Malay cigarettes. Furthermore sugar is obtained from the sap of this palm and it is used for thatch and for brooms. There is a good variety of pomelo there with pink flesh and few seeds known as 'Djerook delima', of which he sends seeds; but says he finds the pomelos of the Far East much drier than those in Florida.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, Singapore. Mr. A. J. Perkins, Jan. 20. Has seen *Solanum tuberosum* in the markets there about as big as marbles. Sends seeds of a fruit found in a Canton medicine store called San-quat. The pulp is many seeded, has no tough cell walls like the orange, and has a soapy, neutral taste. Speaks of the delicious finger bananas of Manila and of a good, medium sized variety that is perfectly green in color when ripe. Says the papayas and pineapples of Singapore are much inferior to those of Hawaii.

TRANSVAAL, Pretoria. J. Burtt-Davy, Jan. 31. Is sending fruits of wild peach, sour plum and wild medlar. Also sends an underground stem of *Elephantorrhiza burchelli*; said to be rich in tannin.

TURKEY, Aintab. Mrs. F. D. Shepard, Feb. 1. Sends ripe fruit of the wild olive collected in foot-hills of mountains on the landward side where the climate is semi-arid. These olives grow better on the seaward side of the mountains and the fruit is twice as large.

RECENT VISITORS.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY. Mr. Konrad Capellmann of the Austro-Hungarian Embassy. He obtained copies of the bulletin on yautias, dasheens and taros to send to his Government and also requests tubers for propagation.

NEW YORK. Mr. Arthur Woods, President of the Colima Lumber Company, 1 Park Ave., N.Y., which controls 45,000 acres of timber oak land in Mexico. He has engaged the temporary services of Mr. L. L. Zook, of the Office of Corn Investigations, for the purpose of starting experimental plantings of various kinds to determine what can be grown on the deforested areas which are 7000 feet above sea-level. He will go to Mexico about the first of May.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS. Mr. Rosenbluth of the Forest Service has returned from the investigation of forest conditions along the Yangtse River which he undertook on his way back from the Philippines where he has been associated with Mr. Whitford of the Philippine Bureau of Forestry.

PORTO RICO. George Armstrong, member of the Porto Rico Association. He is interested in the planting of a mango plantation and the grafting of seedling mango trees with imported East Indian varieties.

RUSSIA. Mr. Theo Kryshtofovich, of the Russian Government Agricultural Commission, is visiting America for the purpose of finding out what American agricultural methods, machinery and plants it would be worth while to introduce into the Russian steppes where he has spent a good many years of his life. He makes his headquarters at 3059 Magnolia Ave., St. Louis. He has been particularly interested in the hardy American fruits originated from our native species and he believes they would be hardier on the steppes than the European forms. He informs us that there is a collection of European grape varieties made by Mr. Constantine Meregovsky for the Russian Government located near Yalta, Crimea; also that Mr. Meregovsky has in St. Petersburg an unpublished collection of colored drawings of grape varieties of Europe.



.ALEURITES FORDII GROWN AT ORANGE. CAL.

According to a photograph taken by Mr. E. H. Wilson of the Arnold Arboretum this wood oil tree on the Upper Yangtse is a beautiful ornamental when in bloom, being covered with large white blossoms. The Tung oil of commerce, reported the best of all drying oils, is made from the seed. The cultivation of the tree has economic possibilities wherever the freight rates are not too high and where the tree proves to be productive. One tree at Audobon Park, New Orleans, yielded 56 nuts when 4 years old. Will probably not be hardy north of Gulf States and California.



PE-TSAI OR CHINESE CABBAGE.

There is a great difference in flavor and excellence between the different Chinese varieties of Pe-tsai. The one figured is of a good variety which is now being propagated to secure seeds, and the one listed under No. 26783 is evidently a superior strain. The various varieties are more delicate than the ordinary cabbage and have less of the cabbage odor, and should be given a wide trial.



A plate of fruit of the "Deng-li"
(*Actinidia* sp., S.P I. No. 26904), from Tientai,
near Ningpo, China.